Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEHRAN 06264 141150Z ACTION SY-05

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FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3560

CONFIDENTIAL TEHRAN 6264

SY CHANNEL

FOR CHIEF, SY/SAS FROM RSO

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: ASEC

SUBJ: FOREIGN AGRICULTURE SERVICE FSLE ELLINI

REF: (A) STATE 161031, (B) TEHRAN 4976

- 1. ELLINI SCHEDULED TO DEPART TEHRAN FOR 21-DAY TRIP TO US ON 17 JULY. STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT CONFRONTATION TYPE INTERVIEW NOT REPEAT NOT BE CONDUCTED DURING ELLINI'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON. IF INTERVIEW IS CONDUCTED, ELLINI WILL PROBABLY CALL CONTACTS IN TEHRAN AND ADVISE THEM NOT TO COOPERATE WITH RSO. IT IS LIKELY THAT DESIRED INFORMATION WILL BE OBTAINED DURING ELLINI'S ABSENCE.
- 2. ON 14 JULY 1977, A CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE ADVISED THIS OFFICE THAT ON 31 JAN 77 SOURCE WITNESSED ELLINI COMPLETING A TRANSACTION FOR THE PURCHASE OF CATTLE FROM HENRY MORRIS, AFPI. (SEE REF B FOR DETAILS ON MORRIS). ACCORDING TO COURCE, ELLINI REPRESENTED PARVIZ JAVAHARIZADEH AND (FNU) RASTAGAR IN THIS TRANSACTION. SOURCE DOES NOT KNOW IF ELLINI WAS REMUNERATED FOR HIS NEGOTIATING EFFORTS.
- 3. SOURCE FURTHER ADVISED THAT ELLINI ALSO WAS INSTRUCONFIDENTIAL

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MENTAL IN HAVING MAHMOUD RAZOOLZADEH SELECTED AS IRANIAN AGENT FOR UNCLE BEN'S RICE. FURTHERMORE, ELLINI IS PRESENTLY NEGOTIATING A SALE OF CATTLE WITH AFPI FOR E BAGHARIAN, IRAN-AM, TEHRAN, IRAN.

4. ON OR ABOUT 19 JUNE 1977, FAS CHAUFFEUR WAS GIVEN AN IRANIAN CHECK MADE OUT TO "CASH" BY ELLINI. CHECK WAS IN THE

AMOUNT OF 50,000 RIALS AND WAS WRITTEN BY HACOB BABAIANS, MANAGING DIRECTOR, TRADIR S.A., TEHRAN, IRAN. CHECK WAS DRAWN ON BANK MELLI, SHAH REZA-VIALLA BRANCH. TRADIR S.A. IMPORTS AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS. SOURCE STATED THAT CHAUFFEUR HAS CASHED CHECKS ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS FOR ELLINI. CHAUFFEUR WILL BE INTERVIEWED AFTER ELLINI DEPARTS TEHRAN.

5. SOURCE ALSO STATED THAT ELLINI "PUSHES" VISAS ON A DAILY BASIS. SOME ARE APPROVED BY AGATT FOR OFFICIAL PURPOSES. MOST, HOWEVER, ARE "PUSHES" THAT ARE NOT SEEN BY ANYONE IN THE AGATT OFFICE.

6. ON 12 JULY 1977, SOURCE'S LANDLORD ASKED FOR INFORMATION ABOUT IMMIGRANT VISAS. SINCE SOURCE DID NOT HAVE THE ANSWERS, SOURCE TURNED TO ELLINI FOR THE INFORMATION. ELLINI STATED THAT IT WAS NOT NECESSARY TO GO THROUGH THE CONSULATE. ACCORDING TO ELLINI, HE CAN OBTAIN AN IMMIGRANT VISA THROUGH THE PERSON OF DR HANCOCK (NFI), HAWAIIAN AGRONOMICS CO., TEHRAN, IRAN. SOURCE GOT THE IMPRESSION THAT ELLINI HAD DONE THIS BEFORE. THIS ASPECT WILL BE CLOSELY CHECKED.

7. OBVIOUSLY FOREGOING LEADS IN SEVERAL DIRECTIONS AND WILL REQUIRE CAREFUL INVESTIGATION WHICH WE WILL PURSUE AS PROMPTLY AS POSSIBLE. IN MEANTIME, DO NOT BELIEVE DEPT OF AGRICULTURE INVESTIGATOR NEEDED HERE AT THIS TIME ALTHOUGH OFFER APPRECIATED. WILL ADVISE IF SUCH CONFIDENTIAL

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ASSISTANCE APPEARS DESIRABLE AS INVESTIGATION PROCEEDS. SULLIVAN

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Message Attributes

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